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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Application Number 10/759,274-Conf. #6856 Filing Date TRANSMITTAL January 20, 2004 First Named Inventor **FORM** Wen-Ching HOU Art Unit 3711 (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) **Examiner Name** R. Gordon Attorney Docket Number Total Number of Pages in This Submission 4 3624-0147P ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply) After Allowance Communication Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) Appeal Communication to Board of Fee Attached Licensing-related Papers Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC Amendment/Reply Petition (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition to Convert to a After Final Proprietary Information Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Affidavits/declaration(s) Status Letter Change of Correspondence Address Other Enclosure(s) (please **Extension of Time Request** Terminal Disclaimer Identify below): Reply to Notice of Non-Express Abandonment Request Request for Refund Responsiveness Return Receipt Postcard Information Disclosure Statement CD, Number of CD(s) Certified Copy of Priority Landscape Table on CD Document(s) Reply to Missing Parts/ Remarks Incomplete Application Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Name BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP Signature James

Reg. No.

32.334

KM/asc

Printed name

Date

Joe McKinney Muncy

January 30, 2006



Docket No.: 3624-0147P

Confirmation No.: 6856

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Wen-Ching HOU

Application No.: 10/759,274

Filed: January 20, 2004 Art Unit: 3711

For: PUTTER HEAD Examiner: R. Gordon

REPLY TO NOTICE OF NON-RESPONSIVENESS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Communication issued by the Examiner on December 28, 2005, the following remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

An Election of Species Requirement was issued in the above-identified application on September 8, 2005. In response to this requirement, Applicants elected Species B of Fig. 8 for examination on October 11, 2005. In response to this election, the Examiner issued the Communication dated December 28, 2005.

This Communication alleges that the Reply filed on October 11, 2005 was not fully responsive to the prior Office Action. The Examiner states that, "Applicant is not allowed to elect all the claims in the application when a restriction is present." It is noted, however, that the Examiner has *not* given a Restriction Requirement, but rather given an Election of Species

Requirement. The Examiner should note that the requirement in the September 8, 2005 Office action was based on *drawings* and not *claims*. Also, as clearly stated in the second paragraph of page 2 of the September 8, 2005 Office Action, Applicants were required to elect a single disclosed species. The Examiner additionally noted in this paragraph that claim 1 was generic.

To support her assertion that "Applicant is not allowed to elect all the claims in the application when a restriction is present," the Examiner cited 37 CFR 1.111. However, 37 CFR 1.111 deals with reply by an applicant or patent owner to a non-final Office Action. Nothing is set forth in this section of the rules about the number of claims which can be elected in a response. Again, the Examiner seems to be confused, as an Election of Species Requirement has been given, but *not* a Restriction Requirement.

Again, in response to the Election of Species Requirement of September 8, 2005, Species B of Fig. 8 has been elected. Claim 1 is generic to all species, as has been noted by the Examiner, and the remaining claims all read on this species. Thus, all claims have been properly elected. If, for some reason, the Examiner does not consider one of these claims to read on the elected embodiment of Fig. 8, the Examiner can certainly supply reasons for this position. Nonetheless, upon a review of the specification and drawings, it should be clear that the elected embodiment of Fig. 8 does read on all claims.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the December 28, 2005 Communication and an action on the merits are now earnestly solicited. In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: January 30, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Joe McKinney Muncy

Registration No.: 32,334

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLA\$CH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant

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